18 INCH GUN THREAT TO CANAL DEFENCES

Fear Expressed New Weapon May Render Obsolete the Works at Colon End.

MIGHT BLOCK WATERWAY

Use of Isthmus by American Fleet Dependent on Land Fortifications.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 .- Reports that at least two foreign mavies have adopted eighteen inch guns for their newest battleships have attracted attention here among army and navy authorities, particularly with reference to the defences of the Panama Canal. Fear is expressed that the rapid progress of military devices may render virtually obsolete the projected land fortifications at Taboga Island, at the Colon end of the canal. Tais island has been selected as a site

for important defensive works. The central idea is to mount guns of sufficient power there to serve as a protec-tion against hostile fire which might be directed at our battle fleet coming out of the canal to engage an enemy fleet. It is obvious that the American fleet would be at a great disadvantage were an engagement to open under these cir-cumstances. The American fleet would have to come out in column formation, head on, and the vessels of an enemy fleet could be so distributed in arc formation as to concentrate their fire on each individual American ship as it steamed through. Thus the American dreadnoughts might easily be torn to pieces by concentrated salvos of heavy shells before they could get into any cort of battle formation.

Advantage Rendered Nil.

It is, of course, realized here that a hostile fleet would seek to engage the American fleet under such circumstances if possible, and the only escape for the American fleet would be not to steam through the canal, thus permitting per-haps a far inferior naval force to block its massage and reader with the its passage and render nil the great military advantage of the canal itself. Naval experts regard the canal as the hospitals, and still more among the content as the soldiers in the fighting line and in the hospitals, and still more among the hospitals, and still more among the soldier in the Pacific. As there is no thought of dividing the fleet it is all the more in exile. This country, at peace, blessed essential for the gateway to the two occans to be kept open.

Ordnance experts of the army and

Ordnance experts of the army and havy have long agreed on the general plan of making fortifications at the entrance of the canal of such formidable character that they would assist the fleet in going through by keeping any hostile fleet at a safe distance. But these calculations were worked out before the tremendous increase of range was shown by the present war. The fear now looms up that the supporting armament on Taboga Island might be subjected to such concentrated fire at great range that it might be battered to pieces before a naval engagement took place.

 naval engagement took place.
 Military experts say it comes down more or less to a question of hidden mor-ters against the heaviest type of naval guns. Just what the mortars are cap-able of doing is not, of course, being ad-vertised, but the authorities here are admittedly concerned about the progress hown by naval armament in the present

Shelter From Fire. This has shown, for example, that the

experts counted on placing them in such manner that they would be sheltered from fire in any direction, but in view of the developments of the present war it is seriously doubted in some quarters "It is for you to decide whether the whether this is possible."

The for you to decide whether the whether this is possible.

RELIEF FUND CONTROL URGED.

whether this is possible.

It is pointed out by military experts that certain land defences of Port Arthur were assumed to be entirely sheltered from the fire of the Japanese fleet, but Admiral Togo quickly dispelled this flusion. Unable to reach with his heaviest guns the vital points, even by indirect fire, he listed his ships to the required number of degrees, obtained thereby a greatly increased range and sent shell after shell crashing into the defences which were believed to be invulnerable.

most prosperous nation in the world will allow its national relief organization to keep up its work or withdraw from a field where there exists the greatest need ever recorded in history. We leave the decision in your hands, confident of its outcome. "President American Red Cross."

Supplies distributed by the Red Cross are summarized as follows:

Belgium. \$77,750.92

Belgium, via Holland. \$71,750.92

Belgium, via Holland. \$11,764.50

England. \$45,144.55

The British battleship Queen Eliza-beth accomplished results almost as un-expected and revolutionary in the Dardanelles. She sent shells weighing a ton for a distance variously estimated at between twenty-two and twenty-eight miles. Her 15 inch projectiles had an effective range far greater than any one supposed.

one supposed.

Naturally the secrets gathered by the experience and tests of the British navy will be closely guarded except to her allies, including Japan. The developments made in perfecting new heavy German naval guns will also not be known to the United States unless it is Precured by good fortune. procured by good fortune.

SOCIALISTS FAIL TO UNITE.

Two Day Conference Ended by Fight Over Craft Unfonism.

The differences between the Socialist early and the Socialist Labor party, at his time at least, have proved irreconcliable. After a two day conference in the World Building between representa-tives of both sides in the hope of amal-famating them negotiations were broken

off last night.

The delegates became deadlocked over the question of craft unionism vs. industrial unionism. The Socialist Labor party wanted craft unionism condemned. When this was refused the delegates accused the larger party of kowtowing to the American Federation of Labor for its tutes.

The Socialist party said that it should interfere in labor union matters. This is the third unsuccessful attempt amalgamate the two parties since the sixteen years ago.

Why wait for everybody else? You're only a "me too" already. Start to-day by trying





indertaken at St. Patrick's Cathedral from January 28 to February 11. The mission is to be directed to persons not Roman Catholics and will have the active cooperation of the Knights of Columbus and individual members of the Holy Name. The preachers will be the Rev. Bertrand L. Conway and the Rev. James M. Gillis, both of the Paulist Society.

Society.

Districts will be mapped out and placed in charge of divisions of the Knights of Columbus men. Also many members of the society living in Long Island. Newark, Jersey City and Yonkers have pledged themselves to the task of bringing their non-Catholic friends to the cathedral and to the special meetings, which will be held in surrounding districts.

Joseph R. Boldt is chairman of committee in charge of the plan and Charles Rush is acting as treasurer. An amount in excess of \$3,000 will be raised

RED CROSS APPEAL HEADED BY WILSON

President Announces Funds Are Almost Exhausted and Greatest Need Exists.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 .- Americans are esought to refill the almost empty European war relief fund of the American Red Cross in an open letter by Woodrow Wilson, as president of the Red Cross, made public to-day at the society's headquarters.

Accompanying the letter is a statement to the public setting forth that from August 6, 1914, to September 30, 1916, the Red Cross received and disbursed for European war relief \$2,144,-963.17, of which supplies used in allied countries represented \$1,121,766.25, and supplies for the central nations \$348,-669.48.

The President's letter reads: "Another winter closes around the great European struggle, and with the cold, there comes greater need among soldiers in the fighting line and in the

"Of great importance among the agencies which have expressed our sympathy with suffering humanity among the belligerent nations has been the American Red Cross. This organization

of our countrymen has brought relief to every nation in the great war. "Its skilled workers have cared for the wounded of every army, have gone forth through the desolate Siberian plains to bring help to thousands of prisoners, have fought disease in pestilence ridden Serbia and have brought hope to count-less non-combatants, women and chil-dren. Wherever these Red Cross men and women go they are carrying the message that Americans cannot rest without seeking to relieve such suffering.

"Organized, persistent work, like that conducted by our American Red Cross, requires a great deal of money. Since the beginning of the war money has

most prosperous nation in the world will

Belgium Belgium, via Holland England France Italy Montenegro. Russia. Serbia	41,764,50 130,610,65 45,164,60 47,888,57 19,510,75 124,872,78 234,203,47
Total1	1,121,766.25
Austria	\$95,336,09 3,391,40 127,029,30 14,489,82
Turkey Prisoners in South Africa and Siberia	118,422.87
Total	\$348,669,46

Saks Evening Clothes

Are "At Your Service" at a moment's notice-but in that particular only do they resemble ready-to-wear garments

For Men

Every Saks' garment for evening wear is an individual achievement, merchant tailored all the way through, from the cutting of the fabric to the placing of the buttons-as different from machine-cut-and-made garments as daylight is to dark.

Their lines are as individual as those of the highest grade Fifth Avenue tailored creations, and they are so finely graded in sizes that to fit almost any man is a matter of minutesnot of return visits and try-ons.

Dress Coat & Trousers ... \$30 to \$60 Tuxedo Coat & Trousers ... \$27 to \$55 Dress Vests \$3.50 to \$12.50

Saks & Company
Broadway at 34th Street

CATHOLICS PLAN CAMPAIGN. STORMY FATE WAITS A great church campaign is to be NAVY OIL LEASE BILL

Senator Phelan Demands Protection for "Equities" of Private Interests.

OBJECTS TO AMENDMENT

Asserts That Intent of Congress Is Ignored in Construction by the Courts.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 .- With the navy through Secretary Daniels appealing to Chairman Tillman of the Naval Affairs Committee to prevent the passage through the Senate of the Phelan oll leasing bill, which recognizes the "equi-ties" of certain locators on the lands withdrawn from settlement and directs the Secretary of the Interior to make leases with these interests, and each side leases with these interests, and each side making changes against the other and the President being appealed to by Senetors to take up the matter with his Cabinet and stop the row, the future of the Phelan bill looks very stormy in the Senate. It is expected to come up this week for consideration. Having made his appeal to Secretary Daniels for the bill Senator Phelan came out to-day in bill Senator Phelan came out to-day in a statement for the California private in-terests that want their "equities" recog-

nized and protected.
"The Navy Department opposes any legislation," says Mr. Phelan, "because the law as it stands has been construed

Intent of Congress Ignored. After pointing out that the construc tion by the courts to which he refers has been harsh and has ignored the plain intent of Congress, Senator Phelan says: "It is a matter of importance to distinguish between the law as it has been harshly interpreted and what was intended by the lawmakers and what ought

The amendment adopted by the Senate mittee, according to Senator Phelan. s the same as the compromise offered to the Navy Department by the Secretary of the Interior and the oil interests on the one hand and "rejected by Secretary Daniels on the advice of the Attorney General, who desires to prosecute all of claims under the favorable construction of the act which he has o bt aedni."

"This would give the Attorney-General a legal victory, but it would work great individual hardshhip and injustice," says

Affects About 5,000 Acres.

The whole dispute affects only about "The whole dispute affects only about 5,000 acres and the navy is given by this arrangement a royalty from a reserve which might otherwise be exhausted by constant drainage by the operation of weils held in patented title by private individuals covering three-fourths of its area." Concluding Senator Phelan says:

"The navy has now reserved and available in withdrawn lands 136,000,000 barries in naval reserve No. 1, and the

and the shale reserves run into millions more, and when this law is enacted there shall doubtless be further discoveries, so shall doubtless be further discoveries, so that it is safe to say that unless it is the policy of the Government to lock up the entire oil deposit, present and future, which seems utterly impracticable, this tegislation will have the effect of greatly increasing the production of oil and now ncreasing the production of oil and pro-

come to us from men and women in all walks of life. We have received checks in five figures and pennics wrapped in smudged envelopes. What we have done with the money is told in the accompanying statement.

"But now our funds are well nigh exhausted. We find ourselves at the point where activities must be seriously curwhere activities are well night exwhere activities must be seriously curwhere activities are well night exwhere activities must be seriously curwhere activities are well night exwhere activities must be seriously curwhere well night exin five figures, which every one concedes it
should have in abundance and security.

"Under this law the individual citizen
will not be exposed to the danger of naving explored the barren places and then
finding his property withdrawn from under his feet and his expenditure of labor.

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will not be exposed to the danger of naving explored the barren places and then
finding his property withdrawn from under his feet and his expenditure of labor. This has shown, for example, that the defences on Taboga Island, even if mounted behind the central ridge, so called, of the island, would not be entirely safe from the fire of vessels. The "But now our funds are well nigh exherts counted on placing them in such manner that they would be sheltered" be sheltered. We find ourselves at the point where activities must be seriously curmany to the sheltered to the sh

ment License Agencies. In Temple Emanu-El yesterday morn-ing the Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman urged that all agencies appealing for or handling funds for war relief be licensed and that so many agencies ought not to permitted to make appeals, and that the war relief funds have become so large they demand the best business

He said that the Americans ought to give \$100,000,000 this year for war re-lief. He deplored the lack of neutrality in American benevolence, saying that a in American behaviories, saying that a suffering and hungry man ought to be relieved if possible no matter on which side he fought. He suggested that all relief gifts be put into one fund and administered wherever the need is great-

Men's Terry Cloth Robes, \$2.95

For today only. In rich Jacquard figure designs. Colors: Blue, Grey and Tan. All sizes. Fifth Floor.

Saks & Company
Broadway at 34th Street Telephone 2626 Greeley

Wavy Hair Switches. \$3.75 Specially priced for today. First quality natural wavy switches, 18 inches long, mounted on three short stems. All shades, except grey. Also—Real Hair Nets at \$1 a dozen.

Beginning Today-The Semi-Annual

Sale of Women's Boots at \$6.95

Reduced from \$8, \$9 and \$10

Many of the smartest models shown this season are included, made of Bronze, Grey, Brown, Taupe and Black Kid; Mahogany Calf; Brown and Grey Buckskin; and in combinations of Patent and Glazed Kid; Havana Brown Kid with white tops, and Black Glazed Kid with grey Nu-Buck tops.

> Also included are extra high-cut Skating Boots in White, Black and Tan Calf.

> > Of Unusual Importance Today

A Sale of Women's Coats

Made exclusively of Pile fabrics and shown in the most fashionable models, beautifully trimmed with fur or self fabric, will be held on the Fourth Floor today. Included are:

Coats of Salt's Velour, with self collar, lined \$24.50 throughout with peau de cygne. Also-Coats of Arcadian Lamb with collars of Skunk-Opossum.

Coats of Salt's Esquimette Plush, in two very attractive models, showing large collars of Skunk-Opos-\$29.50 sum or Natural Raccoon. Lined throughout with silk and interlined.

Coats of Salt's Arcadian Lamb, in loose and semi-fitted models, displaying large collars of Skunk-\$39.50 Opossum and deep cuffs of fur or self fabric. Lined throughout with Skinner's satin or Paisley silk.

Coats of Salt's Sealette, with large collar and deep \$39.50 cuffs of Skunk-Opossum. Lined throughout and heavily interlined.

Coats of Imported Plush, in new model, with large collar and cuffs of Skunk-Opossum. Lined throughout with Skinner's satin.

Full-Ripple Coats, developed in Baffin Seal or Salt's Velour de Nord, showing collar, cuffs and border of \$55.00 Dyed Skunk or Skunk-Opossum. Lined throughout with fancy Pussy Willow silk or Skinner's satin.

Today—An Important Sale of Fur Coats, Muffs and Sets

In the season's most attractive models, offered at remarkably modest prices as a result of careful preparation:

Hudson Seal Coats, in plain models or beautifully \$250.00 trimmed with full-furred Skunk. Only one of each style. Hudson Seal Coats, in new 45-inch model, with full \$169.50 sweep skirt. Cape collar and cuffs of Skunk.

Hudson Seal Coats, in very attractive model, with col- \$142.50 lar and border of Skunk.

Selected Kolinsky Muffs......\$26.50 and \$36.50 Fox Sets, in a variety of shades, made of choice quality

skins......\$64.50 Black Fox Scarfs, in Animal or Fancy Effects......\$27.50 Black Fox Muffs to match......\$32.50

Misses' Fur Sets at \$16.50

Made of Grey Fox, Natural Cat Lynx or Natural Raccoon.

Specially Arranged for Today-A Sale of

1,500 Women's Nightgowns At the Remarkable Price of \$1

In fifty styles, represented in which are tailored models with picot edges; lace-trimmed models; pink batiste nightgowns with hand-feather stitching or hemstitching; cotton crepe models in white or floral effects. and pretty hand-embroidered nightgowns.

Sale of Regaliste and C. B. Corsets at \$3.95

Regular Prices \$5 to \$15. Low and medium bust models, made of broche, flesh color or white coutil, trimmed with lace or ribbon. Heavy hose supporters attached.

Also—C. B. Corsets Reduced to \$2.35

Regular Prices \$3 to \$6. Low and medium bust models in flesh color or white broche, trimmed with lace and beading.

A Sale of 2,000 Dress and Shopping Bags at \$3.95

Regular Prices: \$5 to \$19.50

The better bags, of course, will go first, but the selection is so remarkable in point of value that everyone may rest assured of getting a wide range of substantial bargains.

The Dress Bags are made of | The Shopping Bags are of gen-Chiffon Velvet, Taffeta, Moire, Pin Seal, Beaver and Suede, in beautiful beaded drawstring and covered frame models.

uine Seal and Walrus, in 10 and 12-inch sizes, and of Pin Seal in the much-desired pouch models.

Almost every style of bag is included in this sale, and every model is fitted with mirror and purse.

Today-Women's Suits at Greatly Reduced Prices

Flare and belted models beautifully lined and interlined, fashioned of Wool Velour, Gabardine, Bolivia, Poiret Twill, Velour Gabardine, Velour Checks, Velvets and other desirable materials.

Suits....were \$25.00 and \$29.50....now \$15.00 Suits....were \$35.00 and \$39.50....now \$24.00 Suits.... were \$45.00 and \$50.00..... now \$29.50 Suits.... were \$55.00 to \$65.00.....now \$33.50 Suits.... were \$69.50 and \$75.00..... now \$42.50 Suits.... were \$110 to \$125.....now \$59.00

Monday and Tuesday-The Semi-Annual

Clearance of Women's Blouses

Dainty blouses from regular stock, in broken sizes and color assortments, developed in Crepe de Chine in white or delicate colors; Georgette Crepe in light and dark colors; Taffeta and Crepe de Chine; Voile and Organdie; Silk combined with shadow or radium lace, and a few models in all black silk.

Reduced to 69c \$1.45 \$2.45 \$3.85 \$4.85

In a Specially Prepared Sale Today of

Women's Georgette Crepe Dresses at \$29.50

Copies and adaptations of designs by Jenny, Drecoll and Premet, in most exquisite bead-trimmed and hand-embroidered effects, suitable for afternoon, theatre and informal evening wear. To be had in the following colors:

> Grey, Beige, Gold, Wisteria, Copenhagen Blue, Navy Blue and Black. Sizes 34 to 42.

Smart Winter Dresses and Evening Gowns Reduced

Desirable models from regular stock, developed in Velveteen and Georgette Crepe; Chiffon Velvet; Georgette Crepe fur-trimmed; Taffeta; Chiffon Velvet, and in other high-grade materials.

Afternoon Dresses. . were \$29.50 now \$18.50 Afternoon Dresses..were \$39.50.....now \$29.50 Afternoon Dresses..were \$69.50.....now \$45.00 Evening Dresses ... were \$29.50 now \$18.50 Evening Dresses...were \$39.50.....now \$29.50 Evening Dresses...were \$48.50.....now \$35.00 Evening Dresses...were \$59.50.....now \$45.00 Evening Dresses...were \$100 to \$125.now \$79.50

Today-A Most Attractive Offering of

New Models in Daytime Frocks for Misses at \$18.50

Copies of exquisite high-priced creations, fashioned of Chiffon Taffeta or Crepe Meteor, combined with Georgette Crepe, embellished with silk hand-embroidery and cable cord. Colors: Grey, Gold, Navy, Delft Blue, Bisque and Black. Sizes 14 to 18 years.

Charming Party Frocks for Girls at \$9.75 and \$11.75

In a remarkable variety of new and attractive models, made of Chiffon or Net over China Silk, and of Crepe de Chine, trimmed with dainty tucks, ruffles and laces. Ages 10 to 16 years.